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ABSTRACT

This book examines the role of religion in U.S. education. The book argues that public schools and universities must take religion seriously. Written from the perspective of a philosopher and generalist, the volume asserts that people need to have a better understanding of the deep assumptions that shape their thinking about religion and education and which contribute to the "culture wars" of society. The document contends that the debate comes from the earliest days of U.S. history and that radical change is called for to address these issues of separation. The book is divided into 12 chapters: (1) "Religion and Modernity"; (2) "The Secularization of American Education"; (3) "The Constitutional Politics of Religion in America"; (4) "Textbooks"; (5) "Indoctrination"; (6) "Religion and Liberal Education"; (7) "Fairness and Neutrality"; (8) "Academic Freedom"; (9) "Evolution and Economics"; (10) "Religious Studies"; (11) "Religion and Moral Education"; and (12) "Vouchers." A concluding chapter tries to draw together some of the issues addressed. (EH)

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